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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toru SUMINO

Appln. No.

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 19, 2000

Examiner:

For: INDIVIDUAL AUTHENTICATION SYSTEM PERFORMING AUTHENTICATION
IN MULTIPLE STEPS

jc530 U.S. PTO
09/487726

01/19/00

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 2-118790, published May 7, 1990 with English Abstract.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 2-173869, published July 5, 1990 with English Abstract.
3. Japanese Patent Application No. 7-64911, published March 10, 1995 with English Abstract.

Toru SUMINO
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

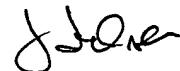
4. Japanese Patent Application No. 8-171535, published July 2, 1996 (corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,436,972 issued July 25, 1995 with Abstract).
5. Japanese Patent Application No. 10-161979, published June 19, 1998 with English Abstract.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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